



► GOVERNMENT CLOSINGS
FOR THE HOLIDAYS....1 & 2



► NEW EXHIBIT AT THE KISH
GALLERY.....3



► REGISTRATION FOR ART
SUMMER CAMP OPENS
SOON.....3

○ ISSUE 31 | ○ VOLUME 5

Community *notes*

You're Invited to a Free Concert



Columbia Center for Theatrical Arts is hosting a free concert on Saturday, December 20 at 3:30 p.m. in the Smith Theatre, HCC. The concert features performances by Young Columbians, Broadway Performance Prep and New Horizons of some of your favorite holiday hits. Enjoy the spirit of the season with CCTA!

Merry Mulch Program

Recycle your Christmas trees through the County's Merry Mulch program. Beginning Friday, December 26 and continuing through Friday, January 16, 2015, holiday trees may be dropped off seven days a week, 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (see below) However, Alpha Ridge Landfill is open Monday - Saturday; 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Look for Merry Mulch signs at the following drop-off sites:

Clarksville:

Kendall Hardware, 12260 Route 108
River Hill Garden Center, 12165 Route 108

Columbia:

Cedar Lane Park, 5081 Cedar Lane

Highland:

Schooley Mill Park, 12975 Hall Shop Road

Marriottsville:

Alpha Ridge Landfill Wood Waste Area, 2350 Marriottsville Road

Savage:

Savage Park, 8400 Fair Street



Click [here](#) to read the full media advisory to recycle live trees curbside or to dispose of artificial trees.

Greeting

The holidays are fast approaching, and loved ones are traveling near and far. Safe travels to each of you.

Enjoy your holidays with family and friends. The newsletter will be celebrating as well.

Happy New Year!

May Kay

Howard County Government Holiday Closings

Many Howard County Government offices, facilities and services will be closed December 25, 2014 through January 4, 2015 in observance of the Christmas and New Year's holidays. A complete list of openings and closings, including a link to the trash and recycling "slide schedule," is available on the County [website](#). For questions regarding the County's trash/recycling "slide schedule," call the Bureau of Environmental Services at 410-313-6444.

The Regional Transit Agency has announced the following holiday schedule:

- **NO SERVICE** – Thursday, December 25 and Thursday, January 1
- **REGULAR SERVICES** – Wednesday, December 24, Friday, December 26 through Wednesday, December 31 and Friday, January 2

For more information, please call 1-800-270-9553.

The 9-1-1 Center, Police and Fire departments remain staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For emergencies, call 9-1-1; for non-emergencies, please call 410-313-2200.

County offices will re-open at regular business hours on Monday, January 5.

Howard County Government Announces Christmas/New Year Holiday Closings

Government Offices	CLOSED – Thursday, December 25 through Friday, January 2	North Laurel Community Center	CLOSED – Wednesday, December 24 (Closing at 5:00 p.m.), Thursday, December 25, Tuesday, December 31 (Closing at 5:00 p.m.) and Wednesday, January 1 OPEN – Thursday, December 26 through Tuesday, December 30 and Friday, January 2
Senior Centers	CLOSED – Thursday, December 25 through Friday, January 2		
County Parks	OPEN BUT NOT STAFFED – Thursday, December 25 OPEN – Friday, December 26 through Friday, January 2	Robinson Nature Center	CLOSED – Thursday, December 25, Monday, December 29 and Tuesday, December 30 OPEN – Friday, December 26 through Sunday, December 28, Wednesday, December 31 and Friday, January 2
Cedar Lane Activity Room	CLOSED – Thursday, December 25, Thursday, January 1 and Friday, January 2 OPEN ONLY FOR PERMITTED EVENTS – Wednesday, December 24 (Closing at 5:00 p.m.), Friday, December 26 through Wednesday, December 31 (Closing at 5:00 p.m. New Year's Eve)	Roger Carter Community Center	CLOSED – Wednesday, December 24 (Closing at 5:00 p.m.), Thursday, December 25, Wednesday, December 31 (Closing at 5:00 p.m.) and Thursday, January 1 OPEN – Friday, December 26 through Tuesday, December 30 and Friday, January 2
Schooley Mill Activity Room	CLOSED – Thursday, December 25, Thursday, January 1 and Friday, January 2 OPEN ONLY FOR PERMITTED EVENTS – Wednesday, December 24 (Closing at 5:00 p.m.), Friday, December 26 through Wednesday, December 31 (Closing at 5:00 p.m. New Year's Eve)	Trash/Recycling Collection	NO PICKUP Thursday, December 25 or Thursday, January 1 NORMAL SCHEDULED PICK-UP Wednesday, December 24 and Wednesday, December 31 SLIDE SCHEDULE IN EFFECT Friday, December 26 and Saturday, December 27, and Friday, January 2 and Saturday, January 3
Kiwanis-Wallas Hall	CLOSED – Thursday, December 25, Friday, December 26, Sunday, December 28 through Friday, January 2 and Sunday, January 4 OPEN ONLY FOR PERMITTED EVENTS – Wednesday, December 24 (Closing at 5:00 p.m.), Saturday, December 27 and Saturday, January 3 CLOSED – Wednesday, December 24 (Closing at 5:00 p.m.), Thursday, December 25, Wednesday, December 31 (Closing at 5:00 p.m.) and Thursday, January 1 OPEN – Friday, December 26 through Tuesday, December 30 and Friday, January 2	Landfill	CLOSED – Thursday, December 25 and Thursday, January 1 OPEN, LIMITED HOURS, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. – Wednesday, December 24 OPEN REGULAR HOURS, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Friday, December 26 through Saturday, December 27 and Monday, December 29 through Wednesday, December 31 and Friday, January 2 through Saturday, January 3
Gary J. Arthur Community Center		Animal Shelter	CLOSED – Thursday, December 25, Friday, December 26, Saturday, December 27 and Thursday, January 1 OPEN – Wednesday, December 24, Monday, December 29 through Wednesday, December 31 and Friday, January 2
Historic Sites	CLOSED – Wednesday, December 25, through Friday, January 2	Circuit and District Courts	CLOSED – Thursday, December 25, Friday, December 26, Thursday, January 1 and Friday, January 2 OPEN – Wednesday, December 24 and Wednesday, December 31
Meadowbrook Athletic Complex	CLOSED – Wednesday, December 24 (Closing at 12:00 p.m.), Thursday, December 25, Sunday, December 28 and Thursday, January 1 OPEN ONLY FOR PERMITTED EVENTS – Friday, December 26, Saturday, December 27, Monday, December 29 through Wednesday, December 31 and Friday, January 2		



Midnight Noon

Does the ball drop after your bedtime? Not this year! Ring in the New Year at the Maryland Science Center for their 7th annual New Year's Eve celebration, **Midnight Noon**, where children can enjoy the ball drop before bed time.



Craft activities will be available 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. (while supplies last). Guests can look forward to decorating party hats, constructing noise makers and making glittery snow globes. The festivities continue with the sounds of popular kids band **Milkshake** as they take the stage at 11:30 a.m.

The entire Science Center will be open and ready for exploration. All activities are free with paid admission (free to members). MSC Box office opens at 10:00 a.m. on the day of this event or purchase your tickets [online](#). For more information, please call 410-545-5980. Food will be available for purchase in Beaker's Café on December 31. Please click [here](#) to view a menu.

New Exhibit at the Bernice Kish Gallery

The Bernice Kish Gallery at Slayton House, 10400 Cross Fox Lane, Columbia, Maryland, is pleased to announce a two-person exhibit in the galleries for January and February 2015. David Fried will show his mixed media work (including pieces by his late brother Herschel Fried), entitled "Memories" in the Lobby Gallery and Elaine Hochreiter will show her oil paintings, entitled "Nature's Splendor", in the Bill White Room Gallery. Both exhibits will run from January 8 – February 14, 2015.

David Fried, of Jessup, Maryland, has exhibited in both group and solo shows throughout the region, including Rockland Arts Center, Hoffberger Gallery, ArtMD 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2006, and previous exhibits at Slayton House Gallery. Mr. Fried has received several awards for his work, including Honorable Mention at the ArtMD 2006, and First Place at the Lyric Opera House Invitational. His late brother *Herschel Fried* exhibited in regional and national exhibitions in Baltimore, New York, Chicago and Illinois. He received favorable reviews for work including the Parisian Magazine of Art, "La Revue Moderne". Before his death in 1968, he also served on the art faculties at Western Illinois University and Millersville College in Pennsylvania.

Elaine Hochreiter, of Laurel, Maryland, has exhibited throughout the region, including the Howard County Arts Council Group Show, Singular Sensations at the Columbia Art Center and previous exhibits at Slayton House Gallery. She has been juried into the Patuxent Art League's Annual Art Exhibitions and the juried Masters' Division of the Central Adirondack Art Show winning First and Second Place awards and the Dodge Pratt Northam Art Center winning a Second Place award. Solo exhibitions have been at the Gallery at Woods, Woods Presbyterian Church and Bowie Senior Center. Ms. Hochreiter additionally exhibits with the Maryland Art League and has also worked as a portrait artist in the charcoal and pastel media.

The community is invited to the artists' reception on Sunday, January 11, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. For more information, visit <http://www.wildelake.org>.

News from Howard Community College

Registration is now underway for winter and spring classes at Howard Community College. View the schedule of classes for both credit and noncredit classes at www.howardcc.edu/spring. Act fast, winter term starts January 2, and spring classes begin January 26!

Don't let the cost of college stand in your way! Apply now for the new, need-based Pathway Scholarship at Howard Community College. The steps are easy: (1) Be a resident of Howard County, (2) Apply to or currently attend Howard Community College, and (3) Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Learn more at: www.howardcc.edu/pathwayscholarship. Created exclusively for Howard County residents, the Pathway Scholarship was made possible by the generosity of the former Howard County Executive and the Howard County Council.

Are you prepared for winter weather? To provide drivers with skills to safely travel in winter, HCC is offering Advanced Driving Skills, a course that teaches braking, crash and skid avoidance, and safe recovery skills. Students will learn in a classroom setting, test their skills in their own vehicles, and then practice how to handle skids with the instructor in the new HCC Skid-Vehicle, which allows the driver to safely experience a full range of environmental changes from dry to wet to black ice. Learn more about upcoming course dates at <http://coned.howardcc.edu/motorcycle-and-driver-safety/courses/drivingskills/index.html>.

Visual and Performing Arts Summer Camps

Don't wait until the last minute... registration opens in January for the Howard County Center for the Arts annual summer camps. Sign up early and choose from a wide range of creative opportunities for your child. Camps are open to students entering grades K–7. Full- or half-day sessions and before- and after-care are available. For complete details or to register, visit the [Classes and Camps](#) page after January 5.

Lords, Ladies and Mummies: The Story of Highclere Castle

Are you a fan of Downtown Abbey? If so, learn the story of Highclere Castle, home to Lord Carnarvon and the setting for the popular TV show, at the Walters Art Museum on Saturday, January 3 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$15 per person (free to museum members). Register [online](#).



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